



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

August 2017

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of a Sophomore Student:

It is my distinct pleasure to introduce myself. I am a native of Brooklyn, NY and Spring Lake, NJ. I enter the Dean of Students position at Christian Brothers Academy following fifteen years as a teacher and administrator at a fellow Christian Brothers school in Washington, DC. I feel very fortunate to continue my Lasallian vocation at CBA. Saint John Baptist de La Salle reminded his earliest Brother- teachers that "Christ entrusted the students to our care." In my role as Dean of Students I feel blessed to accompany your son on his ongoing path towards manhood. I will do all I can to assist your son in continuing to develop a Christian Ethic as he prepares for his future endeavors.

I hope this letter finds your family well and enjoying the gift of the summer months. I am excited to get to know your son and welcome him back for his sophomore year. Rest assured, that in me, your son will find a passionate, supportive, experienced and fair, but firm guide for this sophomore year of growth at CBA.

I thank you and your son in advance for ***carefully reading*** each document that is presented with this letter. Please especially read over the **Handbook/Calendar**. As introduced to you last year, central items such as the *dress code* and *haircut regulations* should be read very carefully prior to orientation day and the beginning of the academic year. Please also pay particular attention to the instructions regarding *mobile phones, internet/social media usage, and absence/tardy procedures*. As you and your son are already aware, knowledge of such information and expectations are centrally important in assisting each young man in continuing to develop an Ethic reflective of an Academy Man. ***It is pivotal that each young man recognize that our code of conduct seeks to develop the self-discipline necessary to achieve such an Ethic. Hence, it is my responsibility and intent to vigilantly hold Academy Men accountable to that code of conduct.***

Below please find and review significant information for Sophomore Year:

- **Dress Code & Grooming** – Students must wear a solid colored dress shirt (*no stripes, plaids or patterns*), solid colored long dress pants ***with belt***, and shoes ***with socks*** appropriate for a business environment. ***By Orientation Day Hair is expected to be cut Above the Collar, off the ears, and above the eyebrows.***
- **Mobile Phones** – Cell phones and other communication devices are not to be used by students during the school day. Phones are expected to be turned off and kept in the student's locker or bag, not on his person. Students caught using their cell phone without

permission during the school day will have the phone confiscated and returned after detention is served.

- **Attendance** – Please refer to the Student Handbook for reporting students as absent or tardy. Please pay special attention to important information regarding qualified excuses and *Early Dismissal* procedures. **Note that excessive class absences may result in course failure.** In the event of an absence or if a student is going to be tardy, a parent or guardian is required to call the Academy's attendance office (747-1959, x300) before 8:00 a.m. In an absence, a call must be made EACH day the student is absent. On the day of his return from an absence, a student MUST present a written note that includes the reason for the absence, the date, and a parental signature. ***This year we have posted a standard absence letter template online with the opening of school materials. You may wish to download, print, fill out, and use this form for any absence/tardy notes.***
- **Computer/Internet/Social Media** – Personal computers and tablets may be used in class. Students are expected to ***exhibit the highest moral and social behaviors*** in relation to their internet and social media use. The Acceptable Use Policy for Computing and Related Technologies, signed by parents and students at the beginning of Freshman Year, remains in effect.

Please Note: If there have been any significant happenings with your son over the summer, such as medical conditions, psychological evaluations, educational testing or interaction with law enforcement we ask that you notify the school so that we are prepared and can best work with your son. Please do so by contacting the Office of the Dean of Students or your son's Guidance Counselor.

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Orientation for the opening of the 2017-2018 school year will be one day for all students. This year it will be held on Wednesday, September 6.

Sophomores should report to their appropriate homeroom by 8:20am. Sophomore homerooms are primarily located in the 400 and 500 wing. Lists will be posted in the Cafeteria and between the Biology and Chemistry Labs. This orientation day will conclude at 2:00pm, at which time parents may pick up their son(s). Buses will pick up students at 2:30pm. *Sophomores should come to Orientation with proper haircuts and be dressed according to the regular dress code requirements.* Your cooperation in adhering to all requirements is greatly appreciated. Any student in violation of these regulations may be sent home and/or subject to disciplinary action.

The First Day of Class will be Thursday, September 7. Students should be in homeroom by 8:15am and will be dismissed at 2:30pm.

School Buses will be parked in front of the main entrance at 2:30pm each afternoon. Please remind your son that the buses will leave promptly at 2:35pm. **Your township arranges notification of bus times and stops. Such information should arrive prior to the start of the school year; if not, please contact your local school district.** Those students who take CBA charter buses will be notified by the school about pertinent information.

School Pick-Up Information: All traffic will be stopped at 2:35pm each day to allow the departure of the buses. If picking up your son by car after school, it is *strongly suggested* - for

your own convenience and to reduce traffic congestion - to wait until 2:45pm to avoid any traffic delays caused by the buses.

The Mass of the Holy Spirit will be celebrated in school on Friday, September 8th for the entire student body. At this traditional opening mass of the new school year we will pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us and bless us in the months to come.

I am enthusiastically looking forward to working with you for the benefit of your son as he moves forward at CBA. I hold it as a true privilege and vocation to assist in the continued development of his intellectual maturity and moral responsibility as he strives to develop the Christian Ethic of an Academy Man.

Sincerely,

Matthew Meehan

Matthew Meehan, M.T.S.
Dean of Students